



BOODLE IS HIGH UP!

States Attorney Deneen Should Investigate the Rumors About the Big Telephone Tunnel Deal.

Such an Investigation Would Cause a Revelation in Chicago's Municipal Affairs Perfectly Appalling.

Grafters Are Said to Have Been Permitted to Work Their Own Sweet Schemes.

In Return for Past and Future Favors Given or Promised "the Main Guy."

This Is a Good Time to Commence the Uncovering of a Frightful Scandal.

Whether the Illinois Telephone and Telegraph tunnel ordinance is dead or not is a question that the future only can decide.

The probabilities are, according to the best posted municipal politicians, that it is not killed but merely scotched and that it will show its head in the City Council again before very long.

On this account, it is urged by those who have the city's needs at heart that it is well to keep a close eye upon the proposed big grab.

The fact that the Council Judiciary Committee has been temporarily scared by the tremendous outcry which has been raised against the grant for the giant bore beneath the streets of our city, is no guaranty that the scheme will not be again revived and finally put through the Council.

On the contrary, it is stated upon what seems to be good evidence that there are tremendous influences back of the ordinance, and that some of the influence comes not only from high but from most unexpected quarters.

It has been broadly insinuated that a "fund" of \$200,000 has been raised to "promote" the passage of the measure through the Council.

The Municipal Voters' League has entered the fight and through its counsel and officials will keep close watch not only on the Council Committee having the ordinance in charge, but it will also follow it through any further stages of progress through which it may be forced. "But what the public demands most of all is that the State's Attorney should take a hand in this matter, too, that the machinery of his office should be put to work to discover when and how this alleged \$200,000 "fund" has been raised, who raised it, and who is holding it for distribution.

If such a "fund" has been raised the facts should be brought to the surface and not merely hinted at, and if such a fund should be distributed in the Council in payment for aldermanic votes, the disburser and the beneficiaries should be hauled before the Grand Jury and punished.

Another influence said to be behind this tunnel ordinance is that of three politicians high in the councils of the Democratic party, one of whom has been assured of the support in present and future campaigns of the other two, provided he shows no hostility to the passage of the grab, and fails to interpose his powerful opposition to the culmination of the scheme.

The Eagle would be glad to see the keen, farsighted State's Attorney, Mr. Charles Deneen, investigating this unholy compact, and bringing the identity of these three scheming Democratic politicians into the light of day. If it were done, the Eagle believes the general public of Chicago would be astounded, and the disclosure would produce a revolution in the political affairs of this city. That a proposition of the magnitude of the proposed tunnel bore should be made the subject even of a political campaign diet, shows the extraordinary ramifications of this tremendous deal. It also shows that no temporary obstacle like the momentary scare of the Council Committee on Monday last will operate to stop this stupendous "enterprise," and that the officers of the law must be

diligent, watchful, and intelligent if the consummation of the deal is to be prevented and the rights of the public preserved.

The Eagle, therefore, respectfully admonishes our able State's Attorney and the Grand Jury that it is their duty under all the circumstances to keep a close eye on the City Council and the tunnel deal.

One of the most extraordinary features of this whole extraordinary affair is the position occupied by City Clerk "Billie" Loeffler. It has been openly charged that Loeffler is interested in this measure, and has actually had the audacity to work and lobby for it. Loeffler has made no denial of it, although the charge has been repeated more than once, and with emphasis.

Why should not the State's Attorney bring the charges that the City Clerk's office is being used for the purpose of forwarding and "lobbying" measures through to the Council to the attention of the Grand Jury?

It is highly irregular, to say the least, and perhaps if the investigation began with this charge it might lead to other discoveries in regard to the conduct of the City Clerk's office in other directions that would prove profitable to both the Grand Jury and the public. The following extract, taken from our esteemed contemporary, the Chicago American, is a case in point and speaks for itself:

"City Clerk Loeffler, familiar with every Council trick, was busy yesterday (Saturday) marshaling the company's friends in the committee. He was fearful that the exposure of the American would result in the loss of several supporters. All the energies of the company are now directed to a final recommendation which is expected tomorrow."

"City Clerk Loeffler is decidedly against delay. He has besieged the city law department ever since Thursday with the demand that the matter be expedited. This is a matter of much concern to Mr. Loeffler. He is a pretty big man, too, in Democratic politics since he made his recent alliance with Mayor Harrison. His wishes are not to be despised by budding office-holders. He is liable to cause many disappointments."

"Loeffler is the man who has proved so valuable to the Illinois Telephone and Telegraph Company. Weeks ago, when the corporation was 'smoked out' by the American, and forced to ask for additional rights, it was shown how the City Clerk had suppressed the Foreman amendments. These were substantially the groundwork of the so-called deal ordinance that was mutilated beyond description by the general committee."

Not a word of denial or protest has been heard from Loeffler in regard to these extraordinary assertions, and yet Loeffler is ex-officio reading clerk of the Council; he can, because of his position, call the roll of the Council whenever he pleases upon the passage of any ordinance that may come up; he keeps the records of the Council virtually as he sees fit, because they are never read but are simply passed on motion of some Alderman just as they are presented.

Just think of it! An official who is, at least, ex-officio part of the City Council, lobbying, working, buttonholing and "marshaling votes" for the passage of an ordinance against which there is a public outcry.

Could there be anything more reasonable under the circumstances than a call for a Grand Jury investigation of the conduct of the City Clerk's office?

Of course nobody takes much stock in the action of the Committee on Judiciary of the City Council in postponing action on the tunnel grab ordinance, and calling in the aid of an "Advisory" Committee. This "Advisory" Committee, most people think, is to be used much as the Democratic "Silk Stock" "Advisory" Committee is being used in reference to the county campaign—to give plausibility to the action of a lot of schemers who "have an ax to grind." It is safe to predict that the "Advisory" Committee lodge will not operate to prevent the grinding of the ax.

By the way, the "Advisory" business seems to be in a fair way of being worked to death these times. It certainly must appear to be the proper cup and a "good thing" into the bargain when the Chicago Aldermen find it a useful auxiliary in their activities.

But what kind of protection may the public expect for its interests from an Advisory Committee like this? Julius Goldzier, Mosser Loeffler, Carter H. Wheeler, Arthur G. Harrison and "Champagne Charlie" Walker?

The long explanation published by President Wheeler, of the good and philanthropic intentions of the I. T. & T. C. in modestly asking for "all the earth" under the city streets didn't seem to work satisfactorily, although it appeared in timely and extended fashion in the organ of the corporation in question. Some times there are explanations which do not explain.

The people have never yet elected a political Corporation Counsel to a seat on the bench—and they never will.

Wonder if Champagne Charlie is in with the Harrison-Washburne subway deal?

Mosser Loeffler favors Champagne Charlie for the bench.

Champagne Charlie would make a fine judge—at a horse race.

A peculiar circumstance in connection with the appearance of a great of ordinances for franchises of great value is the fact that the rush occurs at

the close of Mayor Harrison's term. It has often been remarked that the close of the term of most of Chicago's Mayors has been remarkable for the appearance in the Council of a great influx of "promoters," "capitalists" and ordinances known as producers.

Harrison and Champagne Charlie have decided that the poor people have no right to build on their own property.

The Harrison estate can build on every inch of its real estate, but the poor property owner can only build on 65 per cent of his.

Hon. Fred H. Rowe will be re-elected chairman of the Republican State Central Committee Saturday, the 14th inst. All factions expressed themselves as being exceedingly well pleased with the management of the 1900 campaign and the coming 1902 campaign will be conducted on the same lines. Mr. Rowe has been a resident of the State over twenty years, is a college graduate who believes in and can keep close to the people; he also believes that the purpose of a campaign committee is not ornamental but purely for work. He is a thorough believer in the eight-hour law except when applied to political committees and that after a Republican ticket is once nominated the only business of Republicans is to see that it is elected. It is believed that he will put the Democrats on the defensive as promptly as he did certain Republicans who unjustly accused him of partiality. Mr. Rowe's home is at Jacksonville, but he spends most of his time here in Chicago looking after his extensive law practice. Mr. Rowe is also attorney for the State Insurance Department, with headquarters in the New York Life Building.

Did you read the rotten recommendations made by the Harrison Advisory Committee? The Eagle has more to say of this on page 4.

Harry R. Gibbons, the well-known box maker, would make a splendid County Commissioner. He should be nominated.

Mr. Bernard J. Mullane, the able political editor of the Chicago Record-Herald, will in all probability be nominated by the Democratic County Convention for Clerk of the Appellate Court. No better or more popular man could be named for the office. His work on the Chicago Record-Herald has been of the very highest class, his political column being always absolutely truthful, unbiased and at the same time newsy. He has made hosts of friends both in the Republican and Democratic ranks and although he has

been all his life a loyal and sterling Democrat, it is almost certain that if nominated he would run well ahead of his ticket.

Every office on the list of candidates recommended by the advisory committee had one or more names from the Twenty-first Ward mentioned for it. From John Minwegen for County Treasurer to Champagne Charlie for Judge. The object of this is plain. The "advisory" committee merely named these men so that they would go out and hustle against Robert E. Burke at the primaries. If this isn't dirty politics, what is?

Nobel Gottlieb was from the Twenty-first Ward, also.

Herbert L. Jones, the bright political editor of the Journal, is making his columns sparkle with bright things and good news these days.

"Champagne Charlie is his name," it will be mud after the November election.

"Charlie Walker will be nominated"—Mayor Harrison. Well, as he is running the convention, he ought to know.

If your name is not on the ticket, blame Harrison for it. He has the whole say.

If you were turned down by the "advisory" committee, Harrison is the one to blame. He gave the orders.

Nine months more of the Yellow Kid.

John J. Lane, the old reliable, is doing politics for the Inter Ocean in a way that gladdens the hearts of the public.

If your name was left off the advisory committee's list, you are surely not on a pay roll now.

Next September being the fifth anniversary of the Illinois State Fair, the following committee left Chicago for Washington on Wednesday last to invite President Roosevelt to be present on the occasion: Jacob F. Rehm, Martin Conrad, Messrs. Gerrard, Lovejoy, Madden and Dickerson. The committee has strong hopes of inducing the President to be present, in which case the opening of this year's fair will be the greatest and most successful event in its history.

Blawett Lee! Blaw What?



HON. FRED H. ROWE.

Chairman of the Republican State Central Committee.

TO CRUSH THE POOR.

Mayor Harrison's Administration Responsible for a Scheme to Injure the Poor Man's Property.

While the Rich Down-town Owner Can Utilize Every Inch of His Holdings.

The Poor Property Owner Will Be Permitted to Build on Only Part of His.

This Will Help Out the Harrison Real Estate Trust and Make the Poor Poorer.

Harrison's Administration Responsible for the Awful Taking of Human Life on Monday Last.

Nero fiddled while Rome burned!

Mayor Harrison fooled with a mischievous building ordinance, the only effect of which will be to crush the small property owners of this city and make invidious distinctions as between them and the wealthy owners of downtown property, while a dozen human lives were lost as a result of the non-enforcement of the city laws. While a human holocaust was being offered as a sacrifice to the incompetency of Harrison's pet health department, which allows unlicensed hospitals to be maintained in fire traps, Harrison himself was incubating his pet building ordinance which denies to small property owners the right to build upon their own property.

The Harrison-Walker building ordinance will, if passed, be one of the greatest hardships ever imposed upon the poor people of Chicago.

It should be opposed by every member of that body who has any ideas of common fair play and humanity. The measure proposes to prohibit poor property owners in outlying districts, that is to say, men who own small lots of their own, purchased out of their hard earnings, from building on more than sixty-five per cent on inside lots and seventy-five per cent on outside or corner lots. Hitherto, it was understood and the understanding was carried into effect that the owner of a lot could build over his entire lot if he so pleased.

That seemed to be the constitutional right of a property owner, provided that the building so erected was not to be used for a purpose which might constitute a nuisance.

But the reduction of the right to build to sixty-five per cent of the area of the property amounts almost to confiscation. It is unprecedented, will if carried into effect result in a tremendous falling away in the values of real estate held by small outlying property owners, and bring ruin upon large numbers of deserving citizens and taxpayers.

But what makes the grinding injustice to the poor all the more apparent is the obvious fact that no such provisions have been made against the rich. Every square inch of downtown property owned by millionaires is built upon. There is no ordinance forbidding the multimillionaire property owner who possesses fabulous wealth in real estate "within the loop," from building not only upon every square inch of his property, but out beyond the building line and upon the public sidewalks.

The cheap fagmen and cheap grafters in the Council can obtain permits for millionaire property owners to build bay windows half way across the sidewalks in the greatest and busiest thoroughfares of the city; they can get privileges for these same millionaires to build bridges to their great emporiums across the public streets from the elevated railways in violation of all the laws and ordinances; they can gain the "merchant princes" privileges allowing them to monopolize the sidewalks with their wares, all on top of the fact that these "merchant princes" have built upon and occupy every square and lineal inch of their property. Harrison allows such permits to go through, but he is determined to put through a law that will allow poor

outside property owners to build upon only sixty-five per cent of their property.

This is certainly one of the most audacious pieces of business as yet attempted, even under the present administration.

And while the chief executive of the city is coddling his pet measure, a fire trap permitted by his health department to be used without license as a hospital is consumed by fire and nearly a dozen human beings roasted to death.

Through the criminal carelessness of the city administration all Chicago was this week shocked by one of the most frightful fire horrors that ever occurred in a civilized community.

Eleven human lives were sacrificed under circumstances the true horror of which shall never be known, and which neither mind can imagine nor pen describe; because Chicago has to-day one of the most incompetent city administrations which was ever placed in charge of the municipal affairs of the city.

To the general public it is plain enough where the real responsibility for this dreadful occurrence should be placed. The people are waiting to see whether the authorities shall place that responsibility where it rightfully belongs.

Here is a case where an alleged hospital or sanitarium is allowed to be conducted on one of the most public thoroughfares of the city, without license, permit or any other legal authorization, while Mayor Harrison's Health Department snoozes the hours away or regales the public with pompously worded diatribes about formalin in milk or sewage in the water, ascertained by means of impossible analyses.

Here are eleven poor wretches manacled and strapped down in their beds by a lot of unlicensed practitioners and attendants, slowly roasted to death in a miserable fire-trap, while Mayor Harrison and his Corporation Counsel—

Walker—are diverting themselves with a new plaything, the pending new fire ordinance, one of the most outrageous measures ever proposed.

One of the saddest commentaries on the terrible conditions under which this municipality is now suffering is the fact that it sometimes requires such frightful catastrophes as this to bring the public to a true realization of the situation.

Now perhaps it will be seen what a four-flushing, careless and incompetent administration this city has.

It will now, perhaps, be appreciated that the present city administration is nothing but hollow pretense, and has subsisted upon and maintained itself upon nothing but buncombe and demagoguery.

The Eagle reiterates what it said last week concerning cut and dried stales and programs prepared by caucuses and cabals.

If the Democrats are wise they will have nothing to do with precautionary caucuses, stales, but will just go ahead in the exercise of their rights as duly elected delegates of the people and name themselves the men whom they believe would be the strongest candidates before the voters, and the best officials if elected.